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species are described, and there are notes on others not so well known. As in all of Miss Rathbun's work, the recognition of salient characters is acute, and their expression is put in concise form. One or two features which persistently reappear in her writings seem to call for criticism. Apparently the attempt is made to arrange the species on a descending scale, for the series begins with the Maioids and ends with the Calappoids, but certainly the Ocypodoids are the highest of the Decapods. The other feature of which we would complain is the foundation of new genera (*e.g.*, Eupanopens) upon characters of far less than generic value. Certainly the characters given in the following diagnosis are not of generic value. Carapace of moderate width, anteriorly subquadrate, crossed by broken transverse lines ; frontal lobes sinuous ; five distinct lateral teeth, the third, fourth, and fifth prominent, the second usually so. One feature of the collection is interesting — the absence of any specimens of Gelasimus.

Entomostraca of Karelia. — An extended faunistic study of the Entomostraca of Karelia in the region tributary to the White Sea has been made by Dr. K. E. Stenroos.[1] Especial attention was given to the Cladocera, of which 64 forms — an exceptionally large number — were found. Species are grouped as littoral or limnetic, though a few are members of both faunas and exhibit marked differences according to their environment. When found alongshore or in weedy shallows of the lakes they are opaque and brownish, while in open water they have the hyaline appearance characteristic of the typical limnetic fauna. Great variation was observed within the genus Bosmina, almost every body of water showing its own peculiar type. Wherever adjacent lakes presented similar physical characteristics the Bosminidæ found therein were much alike, but the more diverse the environment, the greater the unlikeness of the Bosmina fauna. Intermediate forms were found which seem to render necessary a considerable reduction in the number of species hitherto recognized in this genus. *Chydorus rugulosus* Forbes, originally described from Lake Superior, is reported from Finnish waters.

C. A. K.

Notes. — The interesting amphibian, *Amphiuma means*, is reported by H. M. Smith in the *Proc. of the Nat. Museum*, Vol. XXI, as occurring in the vicinity of Hampton, Virginia, where it was found in some numbers by workmen while excavating for an electric railroad. This extends the distribution of the species by some 110 miles to the northeast, the furthest station previously recorded in this direction being, according to the National Museum collections, Tarboro, North Carolina.

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[1] Stenroos, K. E. Zur Kenntniss der Crustaceen-Fauna von Russisch-Karelien, *Acta Soc. pro Fauna et Flora Fenn.*, Bd. xv.

Number 4 of the eighth volume of the *Journal of Comparative Neurology* contains, beside the usual literary notices, the conclusion of Dr. Adolf Meyer's Critical Review of the Data and General Methods and Deductions of Modern Neurology, and Professor H. H. Donaldson's Observations on the Weight and Length of the Central Nervous System and of the Legs in Bullfrogs of Different Sizes.

Number 3 of the second volume of the *Zoölogical Bulletin*, issued in December of the past year, contains Notes on the Finer Structure of the Nervous System of Cynthia partita, by G. W. Hunter, Jr.; The Maxillary and Mandibular Breathing Valves of Teleost Fishes, by U. Dahlgren; The Effect of Temperature on the Regeneration of Hydra, by F. Peebles; and Further Notes on the Egg of Allolobophora fœtida, by K. Foot and E. C. Strobell.

Dr. Arthur Willey describes a new Peripatus from New Britain, but very distantly related to any of the previously known species, which is placed in a new subgenus, Paraperipatus. Dr. W. M. Wheeler describes *P. eiseni* (*Journ. Morph.*, Vol. XV, p. 1), from Mexico.

BOTANY.

Some Recent Elementary Text-Books. — No two teachers present a subject in the same manner, and to attempt to compel them to do so, as is done in some public school systems, usually makes automata of them and machines of their pupils, when nature work is involved. But the yearning of every good teacher for some reference book that he can put in the hands of his class, giving them what he cares to have them know and freeing them from the expense of paying for other matter, seems scarcely capable of expression otherwise than in the preparation of a text-book of his own. Four such books have recently come to hand, one quite elementary, the others aiming at the work done in the secondary schools or by the most general of college classes.